(*a*) whether any proportion has been fixed in the recruitment of Inspectors and Sub-Inspectors in the Excise Department as between graduates and non-graduates;

(*b*) if so, what is the proportion; and

(*c*) whether the same proportion is observed in the case of fresh recruitments and in the case of promotions from subordinate grades?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The proportion of graduates to non-graduates is 3 to I.

(*c*) Yes.

Appointment of Excise Inspectors.

365. * **MR. K. PADMANABHAN** (*Chirayinkil I*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the principle hitherto followed by them in the matter of appointing Excise Inspectors; and

(*b*) whether there has been a deviation from the usual practice and principles in recent times?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): (*a*) Appointment of Inspectors was made by means of promotion from the lower grades.

(*b*) The same principle is still followed. But recently it has been decided that competent graduates should be preferred to under-graduates who may even happen to be senior to such graduates and that the proportion of graduates to under-graduates in appointing Inspectors should be as 3:1.

Tobacco smuggling in Manjoor.

366. * **MR. V. K. VELAPPAN NAIR** (*Vaikam*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether they have received any representations from the people of Velloor, Melvelloor, etc., Vaikam, about the troubles they have to suffer from the tobacco smugglers of Manjoor and neighbouring places; and

(*b*) whether any enquiry was conducted?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The member is referred to the answer to part (*b*) of interpellation No. 368.

Statement, by caste, of appointments.

367. * **MR. G. NILAKANTAN** (*Nominated*): Will the Government be pleased to state the number of persons, by caste, appointed during the past two years as Excise Inspectors?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): A *statement showing the number of persons, by caste, appointed during the past two years as Excise Inspectors is placed on the table.

Promotion of Excise Officer as Co-operative Inspector.

368. * **MR. N. ABDUR RAHIMAN SAHIB** (*Nominated*): Will the Government be pleased to state whether there is any instance of a Petty Officer or Sub Inspector from the Excise Department being promoted as Co-operative Inspector?

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* Vide Appendix XII.

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